

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 47

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 6, 2008

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Gordon

SYNOPSIS

Memorializes Congress and President to enact legislation to provide universal health insurance coverage.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/10/2009)

1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** memorializing Congress and the President
 2 of the United States to enact legislation to provide universal
 3 health insurance coverage.

4
 5 **WHEREAS**, At least 30 percent of the \$3.2 trillion spent annually for
 6 health care in the United States goes to the for-profit health care
 7 system while 50 million Americans, including over one million
 8 New Jerseyans, many of whom are working, are without health
 9 insurance and lack access to quality health care; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Approximately \$660 billion of the \$3.2 trillion spent for
 11 health care goes toward corporate profits, executive salaries, stock
 12 options, advertising, marketing, and the cost of paperwork, and not
 13 toward the direct provision of health care; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The inability to provide affordable health care in this
 15 country is a crisis of major proportions as millions of people can
 16 not afford to go to doctors for routine and preventative health care;
 17 and

18 **WHEREAS**, It is clearly time for a universal, single payer, not-for-profit
 19 health care system, which would improve access to care and
 20 eliminate health care costs for individuals; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Legislation has been introduced in the House of
 22 Representatives by Congressman Conyers and 88 co-sponsors,
 23 embodied in H.R. 676, the “United States National Health
 24 Insurance Act,” which would provide universal health insurance
 25 coverage for all individuals residing in the United States and its
 26 territories; and

27 **WHEREAS**, H.R. 676 seeks to establish Medicare for all, which takes
 28 the resources of our system and makes it possible for people to be
 29 covered for all medically necessary procedures, primary care and
 30 prevention, inpatient care, outpatient care, emergency care,
 31 prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, long-term care,
 32 mental health services, the full scope of dental services other than
 33 cosmetic dentistry, substance abuse and treatment services,
 34 chiropractic services, basic vision care and correction other than
 35 laser vision correction for cosmetic purposes, and hearing services
 36 including coverage of hearing aids, without deductibles, co-
 37 payments, co-insurance, or other cost-sharing with respect to
 38 covered benefits; and

39 **WHEREAS**, It is in the best interest of this State to support this
 40 legislation in order to provide universal health insurance coverage
 41 for this State’s uninsured population; now, therefore,

42
 43 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

44
 45 1. This House respectfully memorializes the United States
 46 Congress and the President of the United States to enact H.R. 676,
 47 pending in the 110th Congress, which provides universal health

1 insurance coverage for all individuals residing in the United States
2 and its territories.

3
4 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
5 President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary thereof, shall
6 be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United
7 States, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House
8 of Representatives, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United
9 States Senate, and to every member of Congress elected from this
10 State.

11

12 STATEMENT

13

14 This bill respectfully memorializes Congress and the President of
15 the United States to enact legislation embodied in H.R. 676, the
16 “United States National Health Insurance Act,” which would
17 provide universal health insurance coverage for all individuals
18 residing in the United States and its territories. H.R. 676 would
19 create a single payer, not-for-profit health care system which would
20 improve access to care and eliminate covered benefit health care
21 costs for individuals.

22 Under H.R. 676, covered benefits would include, but are not
23 limited to, all medically necessary procedures, primary care and
24 prevention, inpatient care, outpatient care, emergency care,
25 prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, long-term care,
26 mental health services, the full scope of dental services other than
27 cosmetic dentistry, substance abuse and treatment services,
28 chiropractic services, basic vision care and correction other than
29 laser vision correction for cosmetic purposes, and hearing services
30 including coverage of hearing aids, without deductibles, co-
31 payments, co-insurance, or other cost-sharing mechanisms.